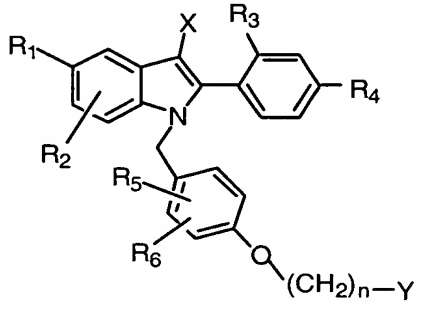
Amendm nts to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

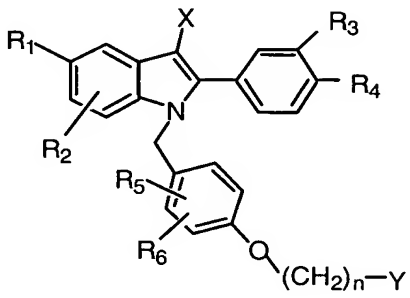
Claims 1-107 (canceled).

Claim 108 (new). A method of lowering cholesterol levels in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound of formula I or II, having the structures



(I)

or



(II)

wherein:

R_1 is selected from H, OH or the C_1-C_{12} esters (straight chain or branched) or C_1-C_{12} (straight chain or branched or cyclic) alkyl ethers thereof, or halogens; or C_1-C_4 halogenated ethers including triflouromethyl ether and trichloromethyl ether.

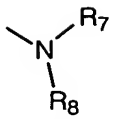
R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, and R_6 are independently selected from H, OH or the C_1-C_{12} esters (straight chain or branched) or C_1-C_{12} alkyl ethers (straight chain or branched or cyclic) thereof, halogens, or C_1-C_4 halogenated ethers including triflouromethyl ether and trichloromethyl ether, cyano, C_1-C_6 alkyl (straight chain or branched), or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when R_1 is H, R_2 is not OH.

X is selected from H, C_1-C_6 alkyl, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, halogen;

n is 2 or 3;

Y is selected from:

a) the moiety:



wherein R_7 and R_8 are independently selected from the group of H, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or phenyl optionally substituted by CN, C_1-C_6 alkyl (straight chain or branched), C_1-C_6 alkoxy (straight chain or branched), halogen, -OH, $-CF_3$, or $-OCF_3$;

b) a five-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C_1C_4 alkyl)-, -N=, and $-S(O)_m-$, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C_1-C_4 alkyl, trihalomethyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C_1-C_4 acyloxy, C_1-C_4 alkylthio, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfinyl, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C_1-C_4)alkyl, $-CO_2H$-, -CN-, $-CONHR_1$-, $-NH_2$-, C_1-C_4 alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, $-NHSO_2R_1$-, $-NHCOR_1$-, $-NO_2$, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C_1-C_4)alkyl;

c) a six-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C_1C_4 alkyl)-, -N=, and $-S(O)_m-$, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C_1-C_4 alkyl, trihalomethyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C_1-C_4 acyloxy, C_1-C_4 alkylthio, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfinyl, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C_1-C_4)alkyl, $-CO_2H$-, -CN-, $-CONHR_1$-, $-NH_2$-, C_1-C_4 alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, $-NHSO_2R_1$-, $-NHCOR_1$-, $-NO_2$, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C_1-C_4)alkyl;

d) a seven-membered saturated, unsaturated or partially unsaturated heterocycle containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C_1C_4 alkyl)-, -N=, and $-S(O)_m-$, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C_1-C_4 alkyl, trihalomethyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C_1-C_4 acyloxy, C_1-C_4 alkylthio, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfinyl, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C_1-C_4)alkyl, $-CO_2H$-, -CN-, $-CONHR_1$-, $-NH_2$-, C_1-C_4 alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, $-NHSO_2R_1$-, $-NHCOR_1$-, $-NO_2$, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C_1-C_4)alkyl;; or

e) a bicyclic heterocycle containing from 6-12 carbon atoms either bridged or fused and containing up to two heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of -O-, -NH-, -N(C_1C_4 alkyl)-, and -$S(O)_m$-, wherein m is an integer of from 0-2, optionally substituted with 1-3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C_1-C_4 alkyl, trihalomethyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C_1-C_4 acyloxy, C_1-C_4 alkylthio, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfinyl, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C_1-C_4)alkyl, -CO_2H-, -CN-, -$CONHR_1$-, -NH_2-, C_1-C_4 alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, -$NHSO_2R_1$-, -$NHCOR_1$-, -NO_2, and phenyl optionally substituted with 1-3 (C_1-C_4) alkyl;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

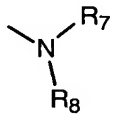
Claim 109 (new). The method according to Claim 108 wherein:

R_1 is selected from H, OH or the C_1-C_4 esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen;

R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, and R_6 are independently selected from H, OH or the C_1-C_4 esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen, cyano, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when R_1 is H, R_2 is not OH;

X is selected from H, C_1-C_6 alkyl, cyano, nitro, triflouromethyl, halogen;

Y is the moiety



;

R_7 and R_8 are selected independently from H, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or combined by -(CH_2)p-, wherein p is an integer of from 2 to 6, so as to form a ring, the ring being optionally substituted by up to three substituents selected from the group of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C_1-C_4 alkyl, trihalomethyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C_1-C_4 alkylthio, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfinyl, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C_1-C_4)alkyl, -CO_2H, -CN, -$CONH(C_1$-C_4), -NH_2, C_1-C_4 alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, -$NHSO_2(C_1$-C_4), -$NHCO(C_1$-C_4), and -NO_2;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

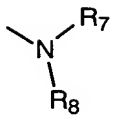
Claim 110 (new). The method according to Claim 108 wherein:

R_1 is OH;

R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, and R_6 are independently selected from H, OH or the C_1-C_4 esters or alkyl ethers thereof, halogen, cyano, C_1-C_6 alkyl, or trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that, when R_1 is H, R_2 is not OH;

X is selected from the group of Cl, NO_2, CN, CF_3, or CH_3;

Y is the moiety



; and

R_7 and R_8 are concatenated together as $-(CH_2)_r-$, wherein r is an integer of from 4 to 6, to form a ring optionally substituted by up to three subsituents selected from the group of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halo, C_1-C_4 alkyl, trihalomethyl, C_1-C_4 alkoxy, trihalomethoxy, C_1-C_4 alkylthio, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfinyl, C_1-C_4 alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy (C_1-C_4)alkyl, $-CO_2H$, -CN, $-CONH(C_1$-$C_4)$, $-NH_2$, C_1-C_4 alkylamino, di(C_1-C_4)alkylamino, $-NHSO_2(C_1$-$C_4)$, $-NHCO(C_1$-$C_4)$, and $-NO_2$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 111 (new). The method according to Claim 108, wherein the compound is 1-[4-(2-azepan-1-yl-ethoxy)-benzyl]-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-3-methyl-1H-indol-5-ol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 112 (new). The method according to Claim 108, wherein the compound is 2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-3-methyl-1-[4-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-benzyl]-1H-indol-5-ol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.